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Marc V. Richards, Reg. No. 37,921

Name of Applicant, Assignee or
Registered Representative

Marc V. Richards

Signature

2-24-03

Date of Signature

Our Case No.: 10522/38

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Tom L. Young et al.

Serial No.: 09/762,619

U.S. Filing Date: February 9, 2001

International Filing Date: August 9, 1999

For: FLOTATION OF SULFIDE
MINERAL SPECIES WITH OILS

Examiner: Thomas M. Lithgow

Group Art Unit No.: 1724

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND
RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement in the Office Action mailed on
September 26, 2002, Applicants request entry of the following preliminary amendment

and provisionally elect the invention of Group I, claims 1-24, drawn to a flotation method. Applicants further provisionally elect the species of "Natural Oils." These elections are made with traverse as explained in the remarks below. This Response is submitted with a Petition for Extension of Time and check as payment for the appropriate petition fee.

The Examiner is kindly requested to enter the preliminary amendment shown on the following pages.